

From the Hustings in the Lower-Town of Quebec, 5th July, 1804.

To the Electors of the Lower-Town of Quebec.

GENTLEMEN,

DUTY and inclination induce me to offer myself on the present occasion. In the course of Thirteen Sessions of the Legislature, during which you have honoured me with your support, some experience must have been acquired, and you have a right to command these services which it may enable me to render. Nothing could persuade me to decline offering them, but the conviction that it might be out of my power to give the attention to your interests in my place, which is the indispensable duty of the Members you return to represent you in the Assembly; and upon this principle, I avowed in the course of last winter, my intention was, not to come forward as a Candidate for your favor at this Election.

Circumstances of a private nature only, gave me then reason to believe that I should find it necessary to go to England in the course of this Summer, and to remain there for two Sessions of the Provincial Legislature. Under the intentions which these dictated to me, could I have offered to become one of your Representatives, I would have proved myself unworthy of the confidence you have heretofore placed in me, and been degraded in my own mind, by pretending to embrace a duty which I knew would be out of my power to fulfil.

But these circumstances do not now exist, and I can freely avow that I have every reason to believe I shall be able to attend to my duty in the House, if returned there, as one of your Members for the next four, as I have hitherto done for the last twelve years; and I flatter myself, no charge is made, of my want of attendance when the Public interests required the presence of your Representative.

With this explanation and avowal, which have been called from me by some of you being misinformed of my motives for the declaration referred to, I appear here, resting upon your opinion and favor, and can safely appeal to all and each of you, without depreciating or attempting in any degree to depreciate, the principles, the character, or the situation of any of the other Gentlemen who offer themselves to day as Candidates for your support.

I am respectfully,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG.